

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for tunneling protocols are described. In one embodiment, the method comprises broadcasting a message at a repeater to one or more members in a network including a switch, the broadcasted message indicating that the repeater is entering the network, receiving VLAN (virtual local area network) configuration information from the switch in response to the broadcast message, and communicating with the switch using the VLAN configuration information in subsequent communications.